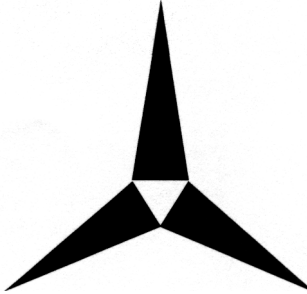


DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS III CORPS AND FORT HOOD  
FORT HOOD, TEXAS 76544-5000



# COMMAND POLICY

NUMBER  
G3-01-02

AFZF-GT-PO

12 April

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Tactical Low Water Crossing Procedures

1. PURPOSE. To establish a Low Water Crossings Policy for III Corps and Fort Hood.
2. APPLICABILITY. This policy applies to units assigned to III Corps and Fort Hood and includes other units conducting training on Fort Hood
3. POLICY.

a. Procedures for closing tactical crossing sites on Hood's creeks and streams.

(1) Streams and creeks on the Fort Hood reservation can fill quickly following rainstorms, becoming very hazardous to tactical vehicles attempting to cross. Storms in the area produce large volumes of water in short periods of time, resulting in water levels that can rise several feet in just a few hours. The fast run-off produces high flow rates, only compounding the danger. These conditions at Fort Hood have contributed to the deaths of soldiers in military vehicles who attempted to cross rain-swollen streams or creeks. The following procedures are designed to prevent the reoccurrence of such tragedies.

(2) There are only 18 approved tactical low water crossing sites on Fort Hood. These sites are listed below and are the ONLY sites approved for use by units training on the Fort Hood training area. These sites are marked with warning signs, gates which will be closed when conditions warrant, and depth gauges to indicate to units whether sites are safe to

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cross or not. In addition, there are six approved seasonal crossing sites, which will be opened as seasonal conditions allow. These six sites will be barricaded with jersey barriers when not opened. No other tactical crossing sites are authorized for use on Fort Hood at any time.

Approved		
Ford	Location	Grid
1	House Creek	048464
2	House Creek	065481
3	House Creek	068484
4	No Name Branch	073493
5	House Creek	134508
6	Cottonwood Creek	097556
7	Table Rock Creek	038553
8	Table Rock Creek	062566
9	Cottonwood Creek	119560
10	Cowhouse Creek	130554
11	Cowhouse Creek	147541
12	Table Rock Creek	075574
13	Table Rock Creek	096574
14	Cowhouse Creek	085598
15	Cowhouse Creek	077608
16	Cowhouse Creek	069620
17	Henson Creek	182661
18	Henson Creek	253663
Seasonal		
Ford	Location	Grid
19S	Table Rock Creek	052561
20S	Table Rock Creek	055564
21S	Table Rock Creek	084572
22S	Table Rock Creek	089573
23S	Cowhouse Creek	099577
24S	Cowhouse Creek	111575

(3) In the event of a severe weather warning, which could potentially lead to the closing of Fort Hood tactical crossing sites (severe thunderstorm warning, flash flood warning, heavy rain forecast, etc.), the Corps Operations Center (COC) will immediately notify all MSCs of the warning. MSCs in turn must notify all of their subordinate units training on the Fort Hood training area. The COC will also notify Range Control, the Provost Marshal (PMO), and the 89th Military Police

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(MP) Brigade of the severe weather warning. Range Control will notify all units conducting live-fire operations and monitoring Range Control nets. Range Control will also dispatch teams to tactical crossing sites to determine if sites are still fordable or need to be closed. The PMO will also dispatch Game Wardens to assist Range Control in determining whether crossing sites should be closed.

(4) Range Control will make a recommendation to the III Corps G3 whether tactical crossing sites should be closed based on weather and safety conditions. The III Corps G3 is responsible for making the decision to close tactical crossing sites. Once the determination has been made to close tactical crossing sites on Fort Hood creeks based on weather and safety conditions, Range Control will contact the COC. The COC will in turn contact all MSCs and inform them of the closings. **The MSCs are responsible for informing all of their subordinate units that the crossings are closed to ALL vehicles until further notice. The MSCs must ensure that ALL of their subordinate units are notified immediately to ensure that no vehicles attempt to cross a closed tactical crossing site.** The MSCs are also responsible for reporting back to the COC once all of their subordinate units have been notified of the closings. The COC will also make announcements on Fort Hood television and also notify the Public Affairs Office (PAO) to ensure widest dissemination of the notification.

(5) Once notified of the closing of tactical crossing sites, the 89<sup>th</sup> MP Brigade will dispatch MPs to physically close (block) all identified tactical crossing sites. The 89th MP Brigade will report status of closed crossing sites to the COC. The COC will maintain a map with all closed crossing sites annotated. The COC will also maintain a log detailing that all units have been notified of the closing of crossing sites. **The MSCs are responsible for ensuring that their subordinate units do not attempt to cross-closed tactical crossing sites until re-opened by III Corps.**

(6) Once weather has cleared, Range Control will dispatch teams to assess the possibility of re-opening the crossing sites. Range Control will make a recommendation to the III Corps G3 whether tactical crossing sites should be re-opened based on weather and safety conditions. The III Corps G3 is

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responsible for making the decision to re-open tactical crossing sites. Once the determination has been made to re-open the sites, the COC will be notified. COC will in turn notify all MSCs. The MSCs are responsible for notifying their subordinate units of the opening of the crossing sites. The 89th MP Brigade will dispatch MPs to re-open (unblock) the opened crossing sites.

(7) To help keep units informed about the daily condition of low water crossing sites, the III Corps COC will issue a "Fort Hood Stream and Creek Condition Status" to all MSCs each day at 0800. This message will alert all MSCs of the current status of Fort Hood creeks and streams in the training area. Conditions for streams and creeks will be listed as follows:

- Condition GREEN: All streams and creeks on Fort Hood are open for tactical crossings with little or no problem expected.
- Condition AMBER: Some streams and creeks on Fort Hood are closed for tactical crossings due to potential hazards that could exist because of weather conditions. Specific hazardous creeks and crossing sites will be identified and closed by MPs, per this policy letter. Units may continue to cross open sites along their route of march with caution but should conduct a thorough risk assessment before doing so.
- Condition RED: All streams and creeks on Fort Hood are CLOSED due to hazardous conditions.

(8) Units who are training on the Fort Hood training area who want an update on stream and creek crossing status can contact Range Control on frequency 30.45 to get the latest information.

b. The III Corps G3 is responsible for determining the daily stream and creek condition. III Corps G3 will make the decision on stream and creek condition status based on input from Range Control and PMO.

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c. These procedures are not intended in ANY way to prevent units from making a decision to close tactical crossing sites while training on Fort Hood. Units can close tactical crossing sites based on weather and safety conditions and a detailed risk assessment. Units MUST call the COC to inform them of crossing sites that are closed so that all MSCs can be notified. Units will not open any closed crossing site, to include any crossing site that the unit had closed in accordance with this subparagraph.

d. Hard stand low water crossing sites (low water bridges) such as Jackson Crossing are authorized for crossing by tactical vehicles but will be closed by Military Police when conditions become hazardous for both POVs and military vehicles. **Units using these hard stand low water crossing sites for tactical crossings are responsible for cleaning the roads after crossing. Units must provide a detail with shovels and brooms to clean these sites after every unit crossing.** When mud on the road exceeds the capability of units to clear, the unit will request assistance from DPW. Units may contact Range Control on FM 30.45 or contact DPW direct. Units will post Traffic Control Points (TCPs) on both ends of the crossing site until road-clearing equipment arrives. Sites left muddy and unsafe will be reported to the COC by Range Control, and units will be contacted to return to the site and clean it. The following is a list of hard stand low water crossing sites authorized for use by units on the Fort Hood range area:

- |                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. West Range Road/House Creek      | PV134508 |
| 2. West Range Road/Cowhouse Bridge  | PV149540 |
| 3. West Range Road/Henson Creek     | PV182662 |
| 4. Bald Knob/Turnover Creek         | PV212713 |
| 5. East Range Road/Henson Creek     | PV254663 |
| 6. East Range Road/Owl Creek Bridge | PV309575 |
| 7. East Range Road/Curry Bridge     | PV300536 |
| 8. Antelope Crossing                | PV075574 |
| 9. Jackson Crossing                 | PV106577 |

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4. SUPERSESSION. This policy letter supersedes policy letter G3-01-02, Low Water Crossings, dated 8 January 2001.

5. EXPIRATION. This Command Policy Memorandum will remain in effect until superseded or rescinded sooner.

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LEON J. LAPORTE

Lieutenant General, USA

Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

IAW FH Form 1853: A

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